原作 福本伸行×作画 かわぐちかいじ
生存
LIFE
3
Nobuyuki Fukumoto × Kaiji Kawaguchi
73
生存 LIFE 3
原作 福本伸行×作画 かわぐちかいじ
講談社

人は喜び　人は苦しみ
そうやって　それぞれの
人生が綴られていく――

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Nobuyuki Fukumoto × Kaiji Kawaguchi

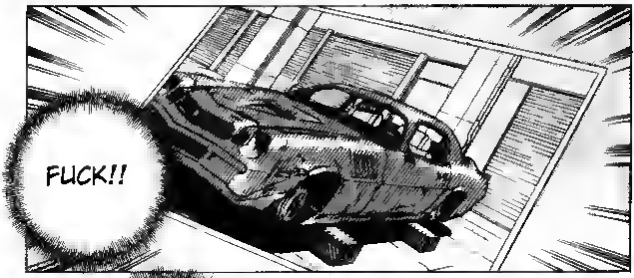
LifE

3

Nobuyuki Fukumoto × Kaiji Kawaguchi
STORY
ART
生存
LIFE
3

THEN I PROMISED MY WIFE
THAT I WOULD FIND THE MAN
WHO DID IT...
THAT'S WHY I DON'T CARE
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!!

IT WASN'T DESTROYED...
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED!!


FUCK!!

BUT...

BUT,

I DON'T REMEMBER...

I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN. SATOH CONFIRMED THAT YOU BORROWED HIS CAR FOR AROUND 12 DAYS...
AND ON SEPTEMBER 16TH, AT THE NAGANO STATION THAT CAR WAS...

WHAT!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED OR NOT. WHO KNOWS...?
THAT ALL HAPPENED SO LONG AGO...

I DON'T REMEMBER.

EVEN IF THE CAR STILL EXISTS,
ALRIGHT...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE HAS CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THAT I KILLED HER...
THEY WOULD ARREST ME RIGHT AWAY IF THAT WERE THE CASE!
THE POLICE WOULD BE HERE RIGHT NOW...
IF HE HAD CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE,
THE POLICE WILL NOT COME!!
BUT SINCE THAT'S NOT THE CASE,

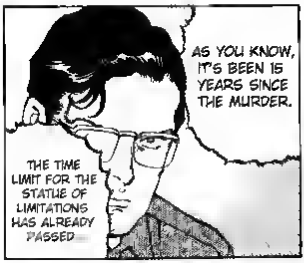
SHOULDN'T WE END THE CONVERSATION AT THAT?
NAKAMURA!!
I TOLD YOU I CAN'T SEEM TO RECALL ANYTHING

HUH?
NOW COULD YOU PLEASE LEAVE MY HOUSE FOR THE NIGHT?
WELL, IF I HAPPEN TO REMEMBER ANYTHING, I'LL BE SURE TO CONTACT YOU.

YOU...

SO IF YOU WOULD KINDLY LEAVE FOR TODAY...
I...I HAVE A SLIGHT HEADACHE

I ONLY HAVE TODAY LEFT!!
TODAY'S THE LAST DAY!!


AS YOU KNOW, IT'S BEEN 15 YEARS SINCE THE MURDER.
THE TIME LIMIT FOR THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS HAS ALREADY PASSED...

NAKA-MURA
NAKA-MURA

NO MATTER HOW MUCH MONEY I SPEND FOR THE TREATMENT, I WILL DIE VERY SOON...
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'M AT MY VERY LIMITS!!
SO PLEASE,

IT'S NOT JUST THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS,
I TOLD YOU EVEN MY OWN LIFE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT!!

TELL ME THE TRUTH!
SO PLEASE NAKAMURA...

THAT'S THE ONLY THING THAT SAWAKO AND I WANT.
THAT'S ALL I WANT...

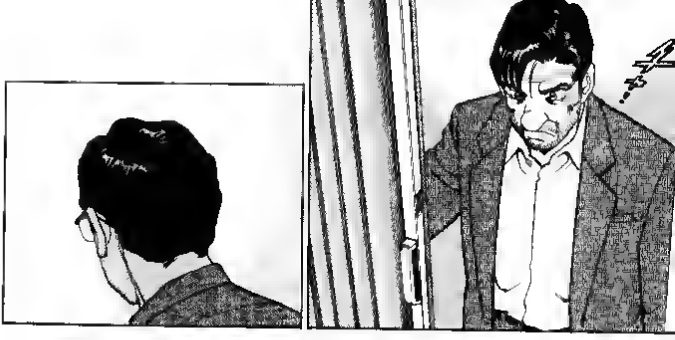
AND PLEASE,
APOLOGIZE...

SO PLEASE HELP US...!

HE CAN'T BE
RUNNING AWAY ?
!

AH...
UMM...
I...
I HAVE TO USE THE TOILETTE.
PLEASE HAVE A SAFE TRIP BACK HOME.
WHAT DO I DO? NOTHING I'VE SAID TO HIM HAS WORKED.
HAH... HAH... WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW...?

WHAT CAN I DO NOW...
12月 火曜日
1
!?
!!
THIS IS!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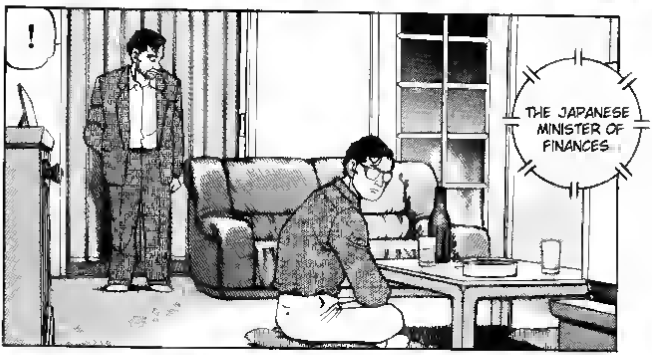
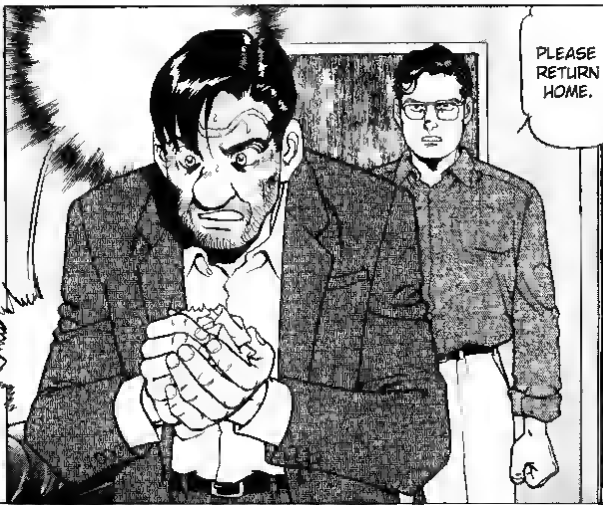
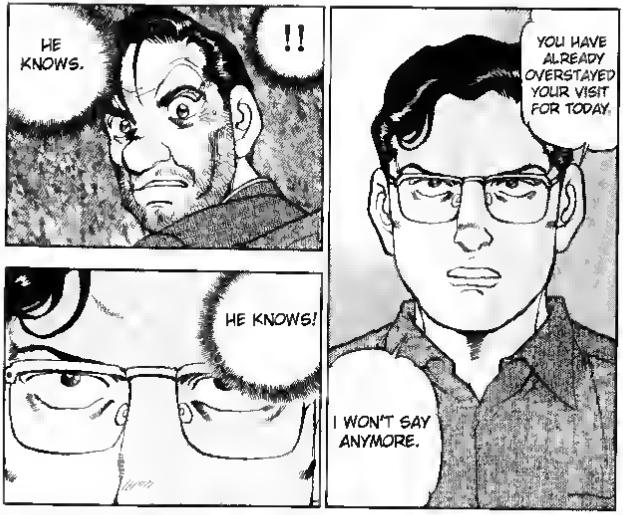

!
THE JAPANESE MINISTER OF FINANCES...

11

30
IT'S A COUNTDOWN UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS!!
THIS ISN'T JUST SOME RANDOM MARK
29
2

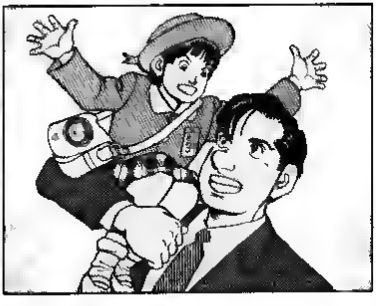

PLEASE RETURN HOME.


HE KNOWS.
!!
YOU HAVE ALREADY OVERSTAYED YOUR VISIT FOR TODAY.
HE KNOWS!
I WON'T SAY ANYMORE.

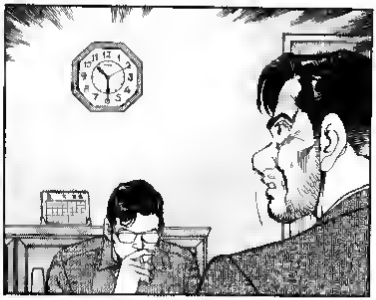
HE KNOWS THAT TODAY IS THE LAST DAY BEFORE THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS FOR HIS CRIME EXPIRES!!

I MUSTN'T LOSE HOPE...
ONLY 2 HOURS AND 50 MINUTES.
UNTIL THE FINAL DEADLINE...

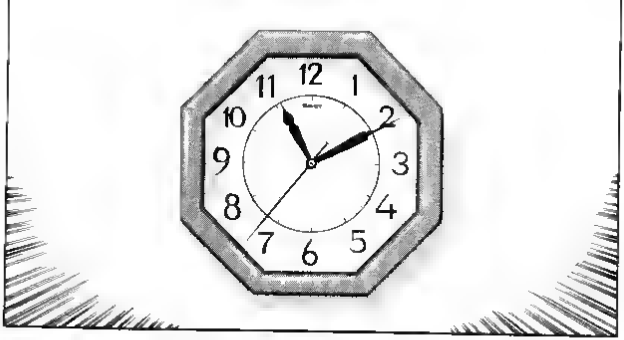
WE EVEN ALMOST ACCIDENTALLY ARRESTED MR SATOH DUE TO LACKING CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE...
BUT DETECTIVE MURAI...
BUT THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR MUST BE able TO DO SOMETHING...
THAT MAY BE TRUE BUT...
THAT
B-BUT...
2 HOURS AND 10 MINUTES...
ONLY...



I'M COUNTING ON YOU, DETECTIVE MURA!...



IF NOTHING HAPPENS UNTIL 11...
TO GIVE US THE ARREST WARRANT— I'LL WAIT HERE UNTIL 11 FOR THAT
IF WE CAN JUST GET THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,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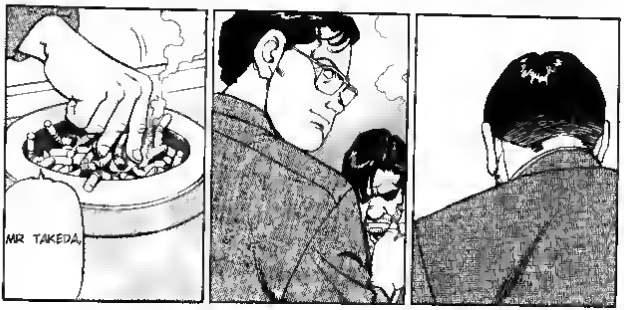
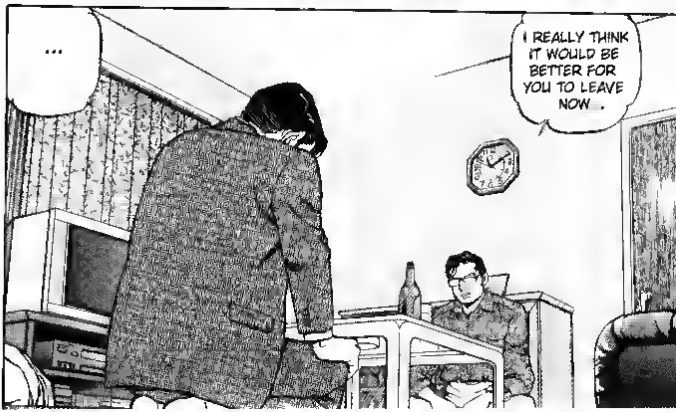
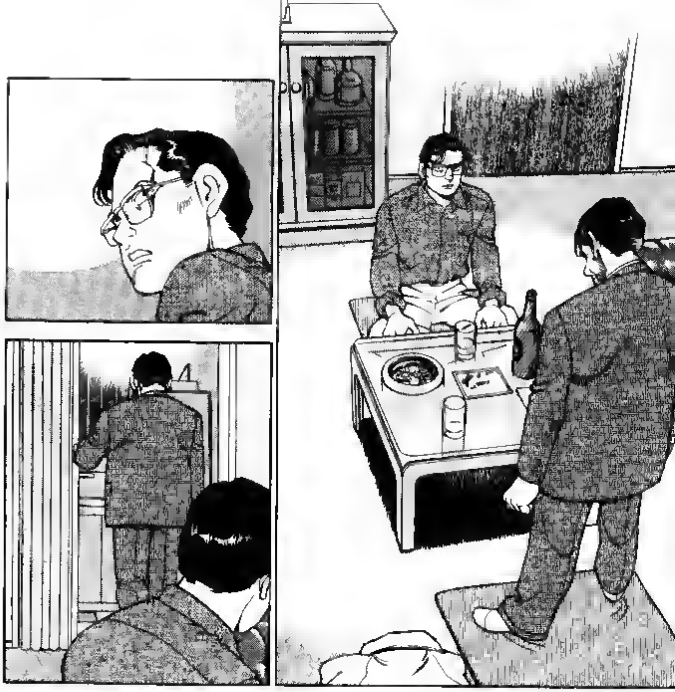
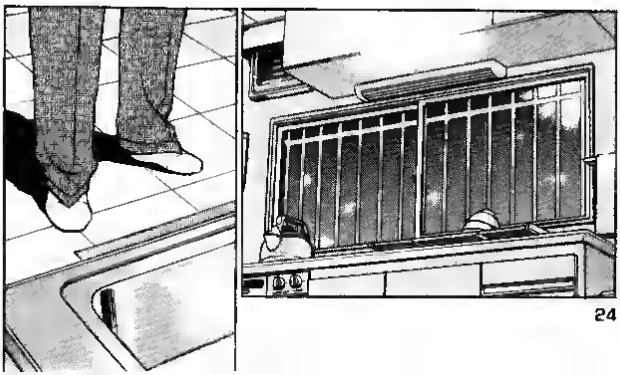

MR TAKEDA,


...
I REALLY THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU TO LEAVE NOW...

YOU LEAVE ME WITH NO CHOICE...
?
YOU...
I MUST GET YOU TO CONFESS NO MATTER WHAT...
!
PEOPLE USED TO DO THIS... TO GET PEOPLE TO CONFESS...





IF IT HAS TO COME TO THIS THEN..
THEN SO BE IT...

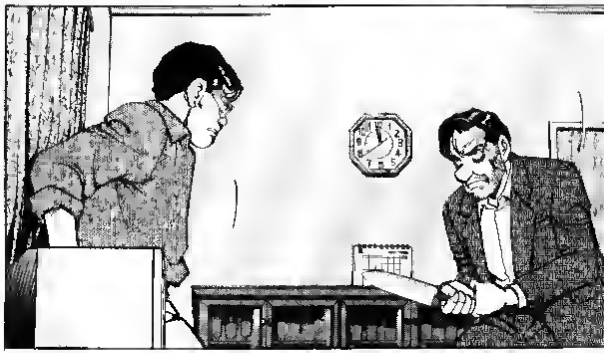
PREPARE YOURSELF... NAKAMURA!!
生存
LIFE
Fujimoto Nobuyuki ✉ Kawaguchi Kaiji
TRANSLATED BY HOX

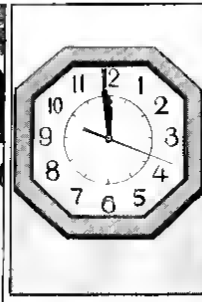
生存

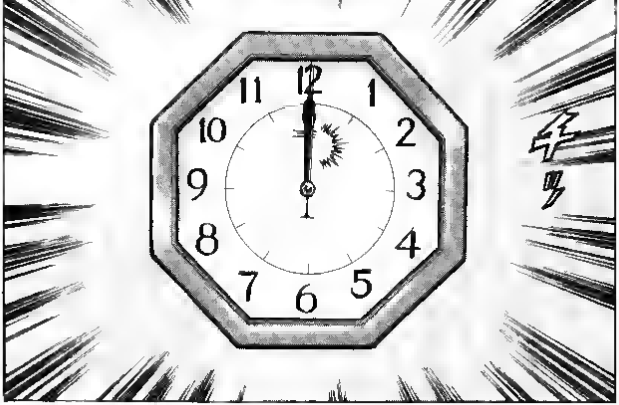
Life

Fukumoto Nobuyuki ✖ Kawaguchi Kaiji

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING...
I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER
W... WAIT!
I'LL TRY TO REMEMBER SO JUST WAIT!
I'M SERIOUS!
I'LL REMEMBER!



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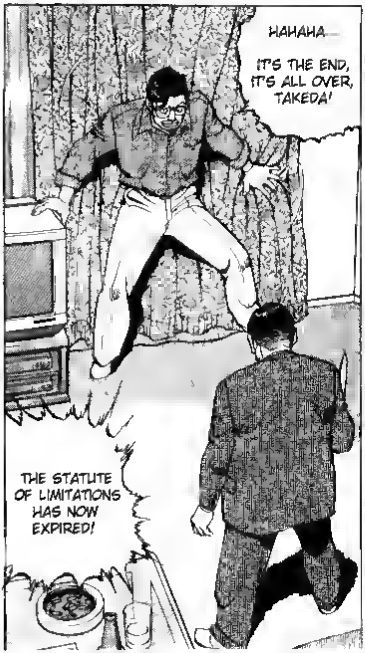
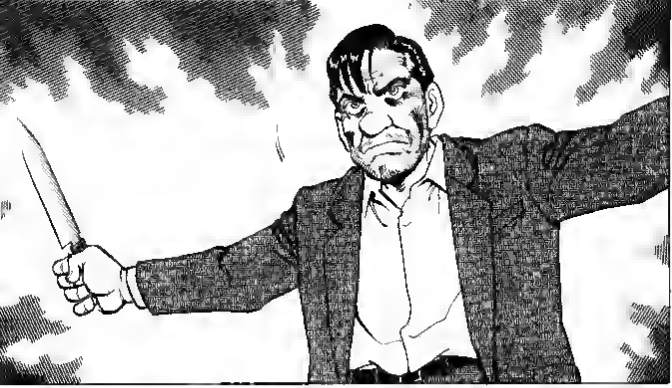
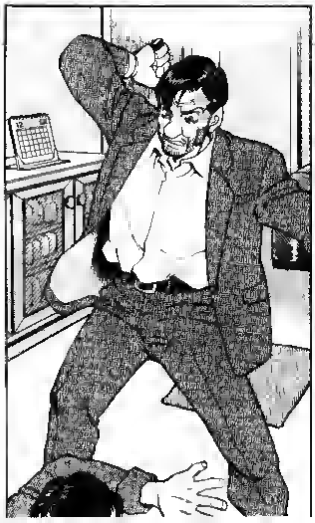
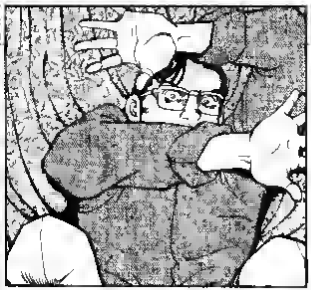

HAHAHA...
IT'S THE END, IT'S ALL OVER, TAKEDA!
THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS NOW EXPIRED!



SAWAKO,
I CAN'T LET THIS MAN GO
THIS COUNTRY...
WILL NOW NEVER JUDGE,
THIS MAN!!
THIS MAN WILL KEEP ON LIVING COMFORTABLY AFTER THIS...
HE'LL NEVER APOLOGIZE!
HE WILL NEVER ATONE FOR HIS CRIME
NEVER...

I WON'T LOSE TO HIM!!
AHHHH HHHH!!

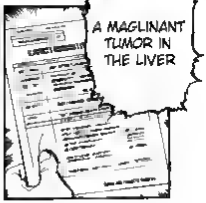




!
TAKEDA!

HAH,
HAH,
HAH...
!
TAKEDA, GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF...

I'LL TAKE YOU HOME.


A MALIGNANT TUMOR IN THE LIVER

YOU DIDN'T WITHDRAW?
YES, IT'S ME

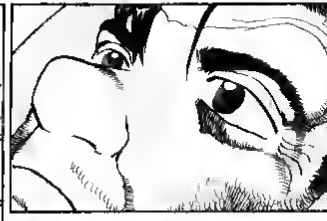
!!
-RING RING-

EVEN IF WE FOUND SOMETHING NOW
NOT QUITE...

I'LL FAX IT TO YOU.
AROUND 11:30 PM...
IN ANY CASE, JUST TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

TAKEDA,
WHAT IS IT?

IT SEEMS THAT THIS BADGE WAS DROPPED THERE.
IT'S FROM THE SCENE OF THE CRIME



IT'S MY COMPANY'S.

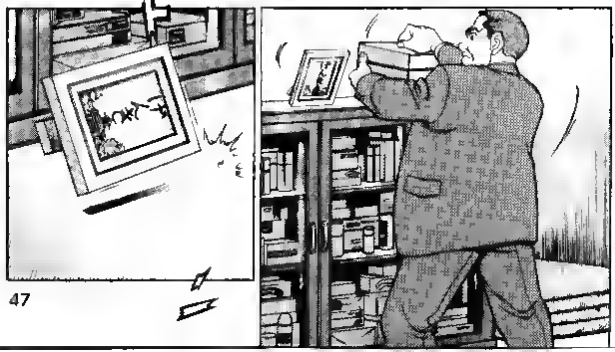
IT'S SOMETHING THAT WE GIVE TO NEW EMPLOYEES TO OUR COMPANY.
IT'S PART OF OUR COMPANY TRADITION.

SO IT WAS NAKAMURA'S...
THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT MADE SAWAKO TRUST HIM WHEN SHE JUST MET HIM
THAT BADGE NAKAMURA MUST HAVE BEEN WEARING IT AT THE TIME.
I'M GLAD...
IT'S ALL MY FAULT..
FORGIVE US
IF MY COLLEAGUES AND I HAD FOUND THIS JUST ONE DAY EARLIER...
IF I KILLED HIM...
I'D BE NO DIFFERENT FROM HIM.
I'M GLAD I DIDN'T KILL NAKAMURA
!?

THAT'S WHY ..
SAWAKO WOULD NEVER HAVE FORGIVEN ME IF I BECAME A KILLER.

SURE.
SORRY BUT COULD YOU HAND ME THAT MEDICINE?

COUGH COUGH!
COUGH!



WHEW
!?

OH THAT? WHEN WAS IT?
IT'S BEEN SO LONG
TAKEDA, THIS IS !

げんき
THAT'S A GET-WELL CARD FOR MY LATE WIFE NAOMI—
IT WAS WHEN MY DAUGHTER WAS STILL MISSING...
NO, TAKEDA! PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS POSTCARD!
HAVEN'T YOU SEEN THIS BEFORE!?
SURE.
I'LL TAKE IT OUT.
THIS IS...!

JUST AS I THOUGHT!
IT'S THE ART MUSEUM FROM NAGANO!
THEN,
THE SENDER OF THIS CARD WAS!
武田佐和子
!
SAWAKO...
I NEVER KNEW
東京都世田
武田
信

THIS STAMP
LOOK ..
!
HUH?
SAWAKO DISAPPEARED ON SEPTEMBER 16TH, 1984!
!?
BUT THIS STAMP'S DATE IS 5 DAYS LATER.
ON THE 21ST!
84
9.21.12-16
NAGANO

BUT HE COULDN'T HAVE KILLED HER UNTIL 5 DAYS LATER!
WE THOUGHT THAT NAKAMURA KILLED SAWAKO ON THE 16TH!
THEN, THAT MEANS ..!?
〒157-
東京都世田谷区
武田 信太郎 様
直美
武田佐和子

Fukumoto Nobuyuki×Kawaguchi Kaiji

生存

Life

Fukumoto Nobuyuki ● Kawaguchi Kaiji

THE DATE IS MARKED AS SEPTEMBER 21ST...
東京都世田谷区佐鳥丘6の
武田信太郎様
直美
武田佐和子
MEANING THAT SAWAKO SENT THIS ON THE 21ST...

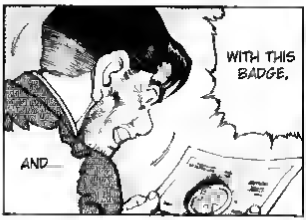
THEN THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IS...

SHE WAS STILL ALIVE ON THE 21ST.

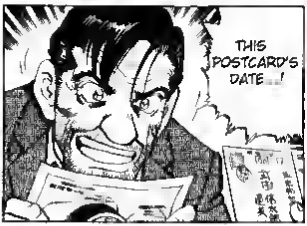
RIGHT!?
げん

THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS COUNTS DOWN FROM THE LAST DAY YOU HEARD FROM YOUR DAUGHTER...
IF IT'S REALLY THE 21ST, THEN THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HASN'T EXPIRED.
W-WHICH MEANS!

WE STILL HAVE TIME!!


WITH THIS BADGE,
AND...

T-THEN WE CAN STILL ARREST NAKAMURA
WE CAN STILL ARREST HIM!!


THIS POSTCARD'S DATE...!

HUH?
THE 21ST...
IF IT'S REALLY THE 21ST...
WE PROBABLY CAN GET AN ARREST WARRANT NOW
THE STAMP IS MARKED AS THE 21ST BUT...
TO BE HONEST,
DETECTIVE MURA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

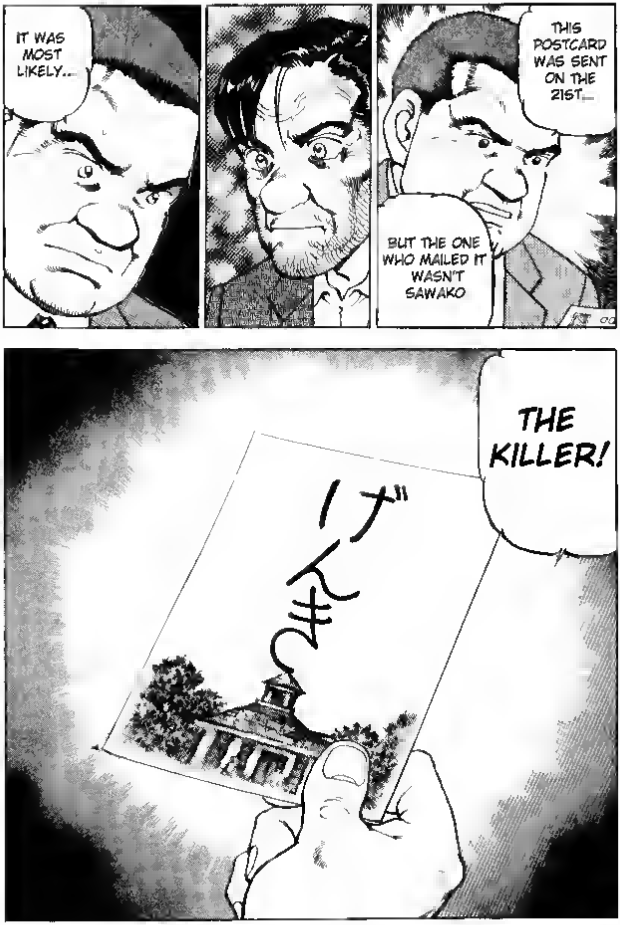
ALSO, WE MUST TAKE THE CIRCUMSTANCES INTO CONSIDERATION...

NORMALLY, TO PROVE THAT YOUR DAUGHTER WAS STILL ALIVE ON THE 21ST WITH JUST THIS DATE IS DIFFICULT.
IT WILL BE QUITE HARD TO DO SO.

YOUR DAUGHTER DISAPPEARED ON THE 16TH.
YET...

THAT SHE BOUGHT THIS POSTCARD AFTER SHE VISITED THE ART MUSEUM IS CRUCIAL...
IT'S QUITE UNNATURAL THAT SHE MADE NO CONTACT BACK HOME UNTIL 5 DAYS LATER ON THE 21ST...

AND LASTLY THE CONTENTS OF THIS LETTER..
TAKING ALL THAT INTO ACCOUNT, I THINK THAT THIS CARD IS FROM THE 16TH... WHEN SHE COULDN'T CONTAIN HER EXCITEMENT FROM THE UMINAO TATSUKI EXHIBITION!
BUT THE DATE...
IS MARKED 21ST!
SHE WROTE IT ON THE 16TH BUT...
THE CARD WASN'T MAILED ON THE 21ST...!
AH!
YES...


IT WAS MOST LIKELY...
THIS POSTCARD WAS SENT ON THE 21ST...
BUT THE ONE WHO MAILED IT WASN'T SAWAKO
THE KILLER!

AFTER NAKAMURA KILLED SAWAKO... HE WENT THROUGH HER BELONGINGS AND USED THIS POSTCARD..
...

THEN, IN THE END... WE'VE REALLY RUN OUT OF TIME...

HE PROBABLY DID IT TO DELAY YOU FROM REQUESTING AN OFFICIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION.

EVEN IF 15... NO 100 OR 1000 YEARS HAS PASSED SINCE A CRIME...
A CRIME WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR, MR. TAKEDA...
NO.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO HOLD BACK. LET US USE IT AGAINST HIM
THE ENEMY HAS COVERED EVERYTHING WITH HIS LIES... EVEN THIS POSTCARD...
EVEN IF THIS DATE IS A LIE...
LET US CONTINUE BY ASSUMING THAT THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HASN'T EXPIRED YET WITH THIS CARD MARKED ON THE 21ST...
EVEN THOUGH THIS CARD'S DATE IS DOUBTFUL...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...!

NAKAMURA IS THE CRIMINAL FOR SURE! SINCE THAT'S THE CASE, EVEN IF THIS EVIDENCE IS DOUBTFUL, THE FACT THAT IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE,
MEANS THAT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR US TO THINK THAT THE TIME LIMIT HASN'T EXPIRED YET!

IT'S KARMA... HE HAS DUG HIS OWN GRAVE WITH HIS LIES...

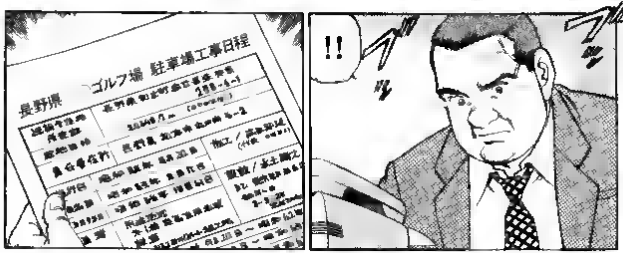
DETECTIVE MURAI...
WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT!
IT'S THE LAST PIECE OF HOPE YOUR DAUGHTER GAVE US!

HE CONFESSES.
WE MUST GET NAKAMURA TO SAY SOMETHING THAT ONLY THE CRIMINAL WOULD KNOW
T...THANK YOU!
SO LET US ASSUME FOR NOW THAT SAWAKO WAS STILL ALIVE ON THE 21ST...
HOWEVER, KEEP IN MIND THAT WE CAN'T GET THE ARREST WARRANT UNLESS WE CAN CONFIRM THAT YOUR DAUGHTER WAS ALIVE UNTIL THE 21ST OR...
AND CREATE THE CHANCE FOR US TO ARREST HIM!

NAGANO POLICE STATION

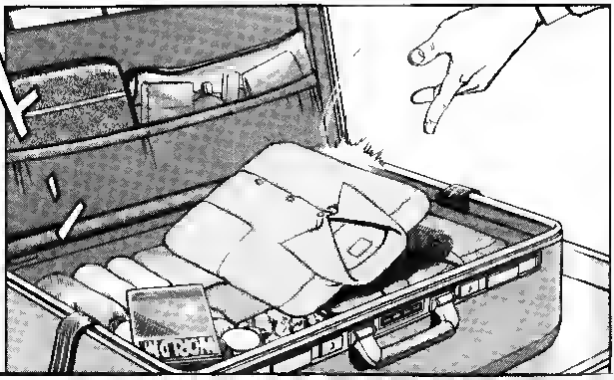
OHH...

BUT THAT MR.TAKEDA IS AN AMAZING MAN. I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO HELP HIM OUT...!
WILL THIS WORK?
IT'LL BE TOUGH...
IT'LL BE DIFFICULT WITH JUST THIS... BUT I BELIEVE WE CAN!
I NEED TO GO AND GIVE THIS TO HIM
I NEED TO SEND HIM A LOT OF THINGS... WITH THIS POSTCARD, WE JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROSECUTE HIM...
I'M WILLING TO BET IT ALL ON THIS CHANCE!


長野県　ゴルフ場　駐車場工事日程
!!

HMM?
MR. TAKEDA, EVEN THE HEAVENS ARE ON OUR SIDE

YES!
LET'S GO.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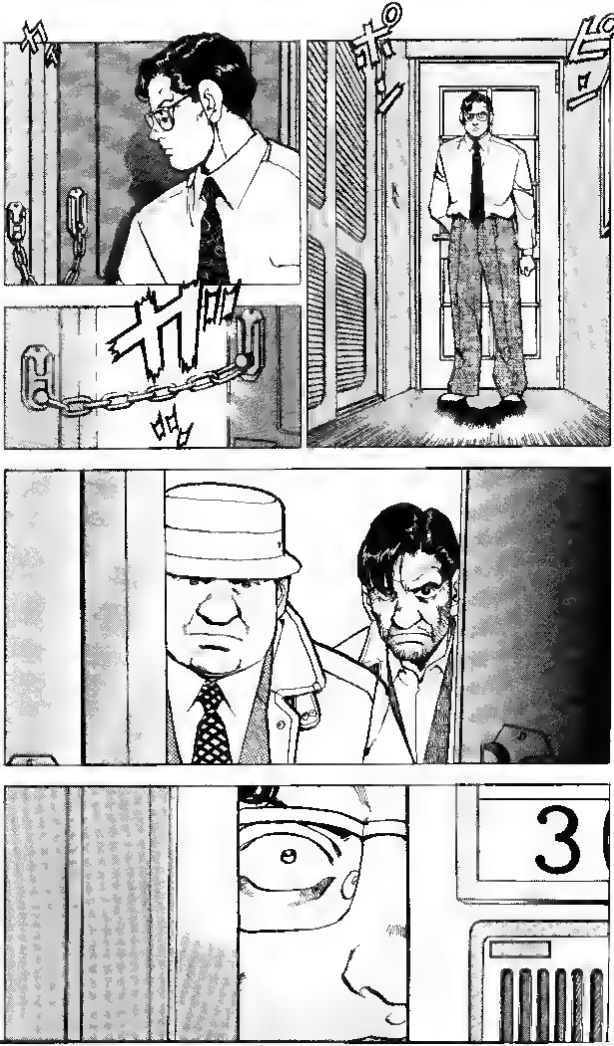

3

WE CAME TO TALK.
WHAT IS IT!?
I HAVE NO NEED TO TALK WITH YOU RIGHT NOW
FURTHER-MORE, WHY IS THE POLICE HERE!?
TO TALK!?
IT SEEMS THAT...
ABOUT THAT...
THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS ALREADY EXPIRED!

THAT'S NOT THE CASE.
WHA...
WHAT!?

正吉
THE TRUE FINAL FIGHT WILL BEGIN!!
AT LAST!!

生存 Life

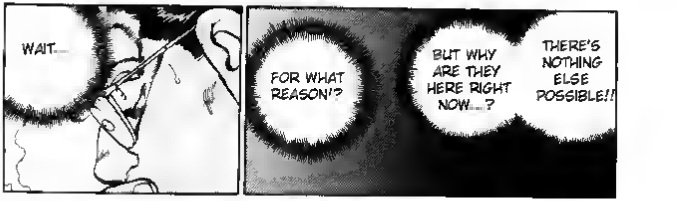
Fukumoto Nobuyuki ✖ Kawaguchi Kaiji

TRANSLATED BY HQ

生存
LifE
Fukumoto Nobuyuki ● Kawaguchi Kaiji

"THAT'S NOT THE CASE ANYMORE...?"
...?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?
DID I MISCAL-CULATE!?
IT'S NOT EXPIRED...?

NO THAT CAN'T BE IT
I'VE RE-CHECKED MY CALCULATIONS OVER SO MANY TIMES...
LOOKING AT TAKEDA AND THE DETECTIVE'S EXPRESSIONS YESTERDAY...
THEY TOO MUST HAVE UNDER-STOOD THAT YESTERDAY WAS THE LAST DAY!!

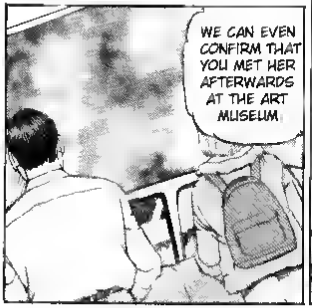

THERE'S NOTHING ELSE POSSIBLE!!
BUT WHY ARE THEY HERE RIGHT NOW...?
FOR WHAT REASON!?
WAIT...

BUT...
IF THAT WERE THE CASE,
MAYBE...
THEY CAME TO MAKE AN ARREST WITHOUT A WARRANT!
THEY WOULD JUST ARREST ME RIGHT AWAY
THERE'S NO NEED FOR ALL OF THIS...

THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED DRAMATICALLY
コト
!?
MR. NAKAMURA...
TO BE HONEST, UNTIL YESTERDAY, WE HAD NO EVIDENCE TO GRANT US THE ARREST WARRANT FOR YOU.
WE NOW HAVE THE ABILITY TO OBTAIN AN ARREST WARRANT.
HOWEVER.
THAT'S NOT THE CASE ANYMORE.

BUT WE CAN'T HAVE YOU BE MISSING WHEN THE ARREST WARRANT COMES...
THE ARREST WARRANT WILL OFFICIALLY BE GRANTED TO US TODAY AT 1:00 PM.
WE ARE HERE RIGHT NOW,
IN ORDER TO RESTRAIN YOU.
THAT'S WHY WE CAME HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING.
IN OTHER WORDS...
...!

I-IT'S ONLY BEEN ONE DAY SINCE... NO, IT'S ONLY BEEN JUST A FEW HOURS AND YET THIS
I-IMPOSSIBLE, AN ARREST WARRANT!?
WITHIN THE CAR THAT YOU BORROWED,
UPON FURTHER INVESTI-GATION...
MR.NAKA-MURA! BOTH YOURS,
WITH THIS, WE CAN DEFINITELY CONCLUDE THAT SAWAKO AND YOU WERE INSIDE THAT CAMARO.
AND SAWAKO'S HAIR STRANDS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED.


WE CAN EVEN CONFIRM THAT YOU MET HER AFTERWARDS AT THE ART MUSEUM.

WE CAN CONFIRM THAT YOU PARKED YOUR CAR WITHIN THE FOREST HERE.
THE DATE OF THE CRIME WAS SEPTEMBER 18TH, 10:00 PM.

WE KNOW THAT ACCORDING TO A WORKER THERE, SAWAKO STATED THAT SHE WAS WITH SOMEONE THAT HER FATHER KNEW AT HIS OFFICE.
ALSO, AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

AND THIS IS THE RING GIVEN OUT BY A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION IN NAGANO.
THIS RING WAS FOUND ON SAWAKO'S RIGHT HAND.

AND ON THESE BROKEN SCULPTURES, WE FOUND TRACES OF THE EXACT SAME PAINT AS ON YOUR CAMARO!
WE FOUND THESE BUDDHIST SCULPTURES.

WE FOUND THE THINGS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SCRATCHES ON THE CAR.
ON THIS ROAD.

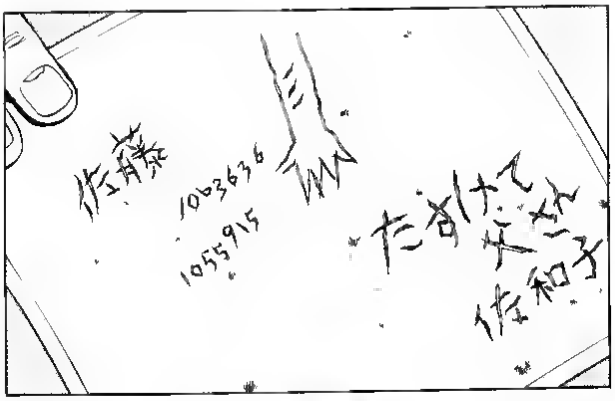
OF COURSE THE SCRATCHES ON THIS MATCHED THE SCRATCH MARKS ON YOUR CAR...
THIS IS HOW WE CONCLUDED THE EXACT SCENE OF THE CRIME
THEY HAVE THIS MUCH...!!
THIS MUCH...!!

I D-DON'T REMEMBER...
I...
DON'T REMEMBER
ALTHOUGH I DON'T REMEMBER EVEN IF I DID,
AND LET'S SUPPOSE THAT I DID KILL SAWAKO...
WHAT ABOUT IT?

WE INVESTIGATED QUITE THOROUGHLY, MR NAKAMURA
THE FACT THAT YOU'RE CALLING ME THE CRIMINAL...
HUH?
YOU MUST KNOW WHAT THIS IS.. RIGHT?
NEAR THE MURDER SCENE, WE FOUND THIS BADGE.
THIS IS THE BADGE THAT YOUR COMPANY GAVE TO YOU WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED OUT...

...?

FURTHERMORE... ON THE CAMARO'S TRUNK'S CEILING, WE FOUND SOMETHING WRITTEN BY SAWAKO
THAT IS TO SAY, A MESSAGE WAS FOUND


佐藤
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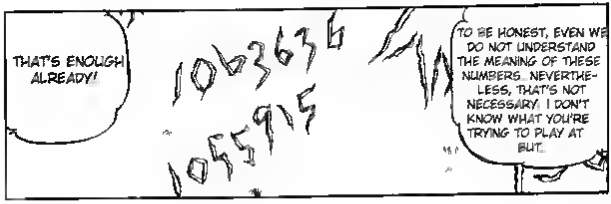
SAWAKO WROTE THIS KNOWING THAT YOU WERE CALLED "SATOU"
佐藤
SATOU
106
THIS "SATOU" IS...
THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE SCARS ON THE CRIMINAL'S ARM.


THAT'S ENOUGH ALREADY!
1063636
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TO BE HONEST, EVEN WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THESE NUMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THAT'S NOT NECESSARY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PLAY AT BUT...

THE CRIMINAL CAN BE NO ONE ELSE BUT YOU!!
!

SPEAKING OF THE ARREST WARRANT...
I SUGGEST,

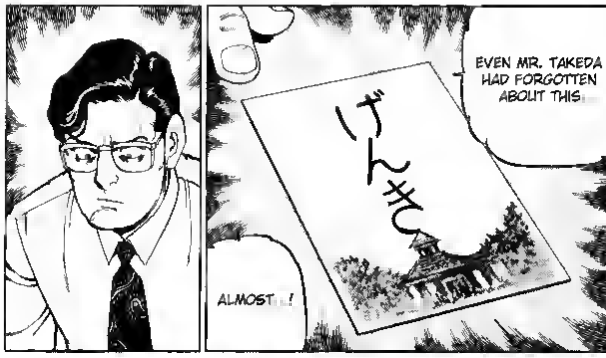
MR. NAKA-MURA!!

THAT YOU CONFESS NOW
IF YOU CONFESS, YOU'LL GET A LIGHTER SENTENCE
BUT IF YOU WAIT UNTIL WE ARREST YOU,
IT'LL BE TOO LATE!!
AS EXPECTED FROM THE DETECTIVE

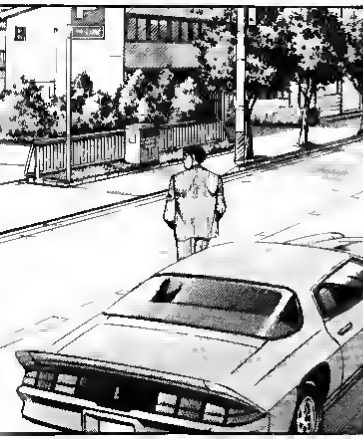
THE ONLY WAY IS TO FORCE THE TRUTH OUT OF HIM!
APPEALING TO HIS SINCERITY IS MEANINGLESS...
HE HAS BOTH THE KNOWL-EDGE AND EXPERIENCE!!
THIS WAS CERTAINLY THE BEST WAY.
AS EXPECTED FROM A PRO-FESSIONAL...
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS?

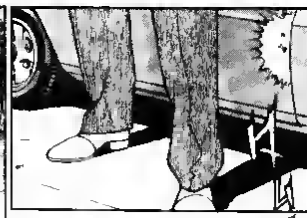
DIDN'T IT EXPIRE YESTERDAY?
WELL?
IT'S BEEN 15 YEARS, 2 MONTHS AND 16 DAYS! COUNTING THE TIME I SPENT OVERSEAS, THE TIME LIMIT WAS OVER YESTERDAY!
IT'S TOO LATE!
AREN'T I RIGHT!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
OF COURSE I CAN'T TURN TIME BACK
CAN YOU TURN BACK TIME?
WOULD YOU MIND EXPLAINING THAT TO ME MR DETECIVE
I COULD HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN ABOUT THE STARTING DATE!!
HOWEVER!
WE WERE A BIT ILL-PREPARED YESTERDAY
LET ME EXPLAIN


EVEN MR. TAKEDA HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT THIS
げんそ
ALMOST...!

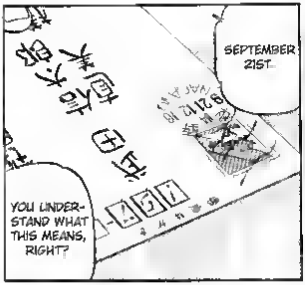
!





郵便はが
げんき
THIS IS...

THIS...
!
THIS WAS A LETTER SENT BY SAWAKO WHEN SHE WAS STILL ALIVE
WHAT IS THIS?
THIS IS...
!?
THIS IS SOMETHING SHE SENT HERSELF
MR TAKEDA ALREADY CONFIRMED THAT THIS IS DEFINITELY IN HER HANDWRITING


SEPTEMBER 21ST.
YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS, RIGHT?

THE PROBLEM IS,
THIS DATE

BUT SHE WAS ACTUALLY ALIVE UNTIL THE 21ST.

WE PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT THE LAST TIME WE HEARD FROM HER WAS THE 16TH,

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING!?

MOST LIKELY, THE CRIMINAL KILLED HER AFTER THIS WAS SENT.

SINCE THE CRIMINAL KILLED HER ON THE 21ST OR AFTER....
THUS, THE STARTING DATE FOR THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS MUST BE CORRECTED
IN OTHER WORDS...
!!
IN OTHER WORDS, THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS EXPIRES 5 DAYS LATER ON...
OF COURSE THE EXPIRY DATE WILL BE DELAYED 5 DAYS AS WELL.
1999, DECEMBER, 5TH!
DO YOU UNDER-STAND!?

YOU ARE STILL BOUND BY THE LAW RIGHT NOW!
MR. NAKAMURA
T-THAT'S CRAZY!!

生存

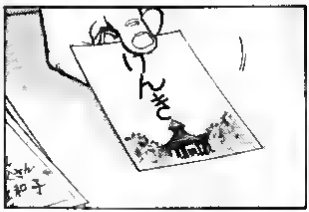
LifE

Fukumoto Nobuyuki★Kawaguchi Kaiji

TRANSLATED BY HOX

HOW THE HELL IS THIS POSSIBLE!!
生存
LIFE
Fukumoto Nobuyuki ✕ Kawaguchi Kaiji

GOOD.



IT'S TIME TO BREAK THROUGH!

!

BE POSSIBLE?
JUST WHY CAN'T IT

WHY NOT!?

IN ONLY A FEW HOURS, THE ARREST WARRANT WILL COME ANYWAYS....
WELL, FEEL FREE TO KEEP SILENT IF YOU WANT..

THEN YOU CAN TELL THE COURTS JUST WHY NOT.

OF COURSE,
THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS
!?

IT WON'T MATTER EVEN IF YOU DON'T CONFESS, THE RESULT HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED...

WITH THIS, IT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH...
THERE'S A LOT OF ENOUGH EVIDENCE HERE.
SAWAKO'S DYING MESSAGE HAS BEEN TREMENDOUSLY HELPFUL...
REALLY...
ALL OF THIS IS FULL OF CRAP. HOW COULD THIS BE HELPFUL AT ALL!
STOP LYING!

佐藤
1063636
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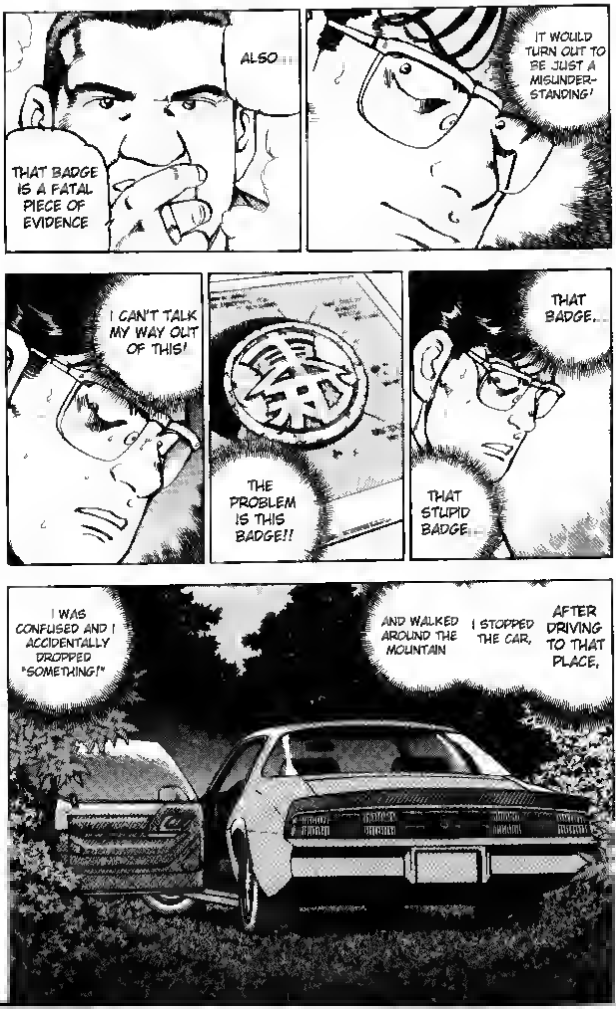
FURTHERMORE, THERE'S ONLY 3 SCAR MARKS...!
EVEN THE NAME IS WRONG... WHAT THE HELL IS SATOU? I'M SATOSHI
たすけて

THERE DEFINITELY WAS 3 AT THAT TIME!

THEY'D THINK THEY WERE MISTAKEN IF I SHOWED THEM NOW!

BUT ONLY ONE OF THEM WAS DEEP ENOUGH TO REMAIN...

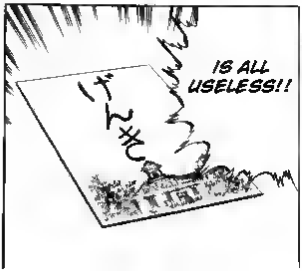

ALSO...
THAT BADGE IS A FATAL PIECE OF EVIDENCE
IT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING!
I CAN'T TALK MY WAY OUT OF THIS!
THE PROBLEM IS THIS BADGE!!
THAT BADGE...
THAT STUPID BADGE...
I WAS CONFUSED AND I ACCIDENTALLY DROPPED "SOMETHING!"
AND WALKED AROUND THE MOUNTAIN
I STOPPED THE CAR,
AFTER DRIVING TO THAT PLACE,

BUT...
WITH THAT EXCUSE MAYBE I COULD DENY THE MURDER BUT...
BUT!
WHAT!?
!!
BUT WHAT...?

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID...
YOU JUST SAID "HOWEVER."
THAT'S ALL YOU'RE GOING TO SAY?
ABOUT WHAT?
YOU KNOW, WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
THE POST-CARD?!
THE POST-CARD?
WHAT ABOUT IT?

THE PERSON WHO SENT THIS LETTER
IT DOESN'T NECCESSARILY HAVE TO BE SAWAKO!
EVEN THOUGH THE PERSON WHO WROTE IT WAS SAWAKO,

THE PERSON WHO SENT THIS WASN'T SAWAKO!!


IS ALL USELESS!!
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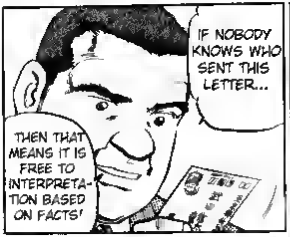
IN OTHER WORDS...
USING THIS TO PROVE THAT SHE WAS ALIVE UNTIL THE 21TH...

RIGHT!?

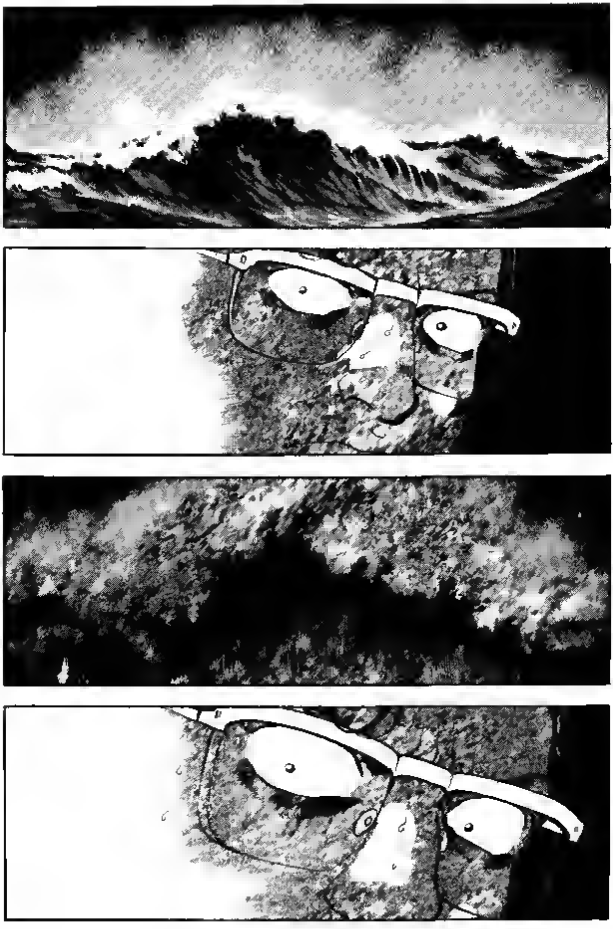
IF THAT'S SO...
WHO SENT THIS LETTER!?


IF NOBODY KNOWS WHO SENT THIS LETTER...
THEN THAT MEANS IT IS FREE TO INTERPRETATION BASED ON FACTS!

HOW THE HELL WOULD I KNOW?

WHAT?

IT'S ALREADY BEEN 15 YEARS SINCE THIS CRIME HAPPENED.
AND IN THE COURT, OUR EVIDENCE WILL SPEAK LOUDER THAN WHAT YOU MAY SAY.
WHICH MEANS, AS YOU SAID, IT'S ANYBODY'S GUESS AS TO WHO SENT THIS
THIS IS DEFINITELY AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF EVIDENCE
IT WILL BE...
YOUR GRAVE.
MUCH LOUDER.



IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
T-THAT..
JUST WHY ISN'T IT POSSIBLE?
IMPOSS-IBLE?
...?
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT SO CONFIDENTLY?
SAWAKO DID NOT SEND THAT LETTER!

SHE..
SHE...
SHE WAS.

ALREADY...
DEAD...

SHE WAS ALREADY DEAD?
NAKAMURA!
ナ!!!

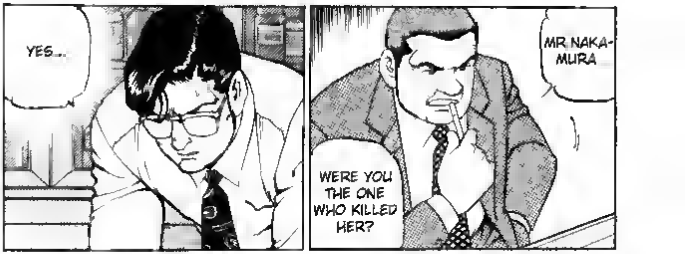
THE ONE WHO SENT THAT LETTER WAS...
ME!!!
YES!! SHE WAS ALREADY DEAD ON THE 21ST!!

SO YOU KILLED HER?

DIDN'T I PROMISE MYSELF TO KEEP QUIET?
SHIT!
WHY DID I SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN!
W-WHAT... HOW DID I...

BUT...
I SHOULD HAVE JUST KEPT QUIET!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW...

AS LONG AS THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS EXPIRED, I'M INNOCENT!!
THAT'S RIGHT. THE PROBLEM WAS...
THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS!!


YES...
MR. NAKAMURA
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO KILLED HER?

ONLY HALFWAY DONE...
THE ESSENTIAL PART IS FROM HEREON.
=>CLENCH<=

I KILLED HER... ON THE 16TH...
AND I BURIED HER ON THE 18TH... LATE AT NIGHT...
I BURIED HER IN THE PARKING LOT OF THAT GOLF CLUB...
HOW WAS HER BODY BURIED...?
FACE UP OR FACE DOWN...?
FACE UP...
WHERE DID HER HEAD POINT TOWARDS?
TOWARDS THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PARKING LOT..
WHICH SIDE OF THE HEAD DID YOU HIT...?
THE LEFT SIDE OF HER HEAD...

YOU...NO... NOBODY HAS THE RIGHT TO ASK SUCH THINGS!
ISN'T THAT ALREADY GOOD ENOUGH!
THIS CASE IS ALREADY OVER!
THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS EXPIRED YESTERDAY! WHAT DOES IT MATTER TO YOU NOW, ASKING ALL THESE QUESTIONS?!!
WELL?!

TO SAY THAT THE MURDER WAS ON THE 16TH
NO, NO...
THAT'S SOMETHING ONLY YOU, AS THE CRIMINAL, WOULD WANT TO SAY!
IN OTHER WORDS...
WHAT!

ON MY SIDE...
WE WILL CONTINUE TO TREAT THIS CASE AS IT OCCURRED ON THE 21ST!
THIS....THIS DECTIVE...
I WAS DONE IN BY THIS GUY!!

I CAN'T RUN AWAY...
I CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE
THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO RISK IT ALL...
AND I WILL CRUSH HIM!!
TRANSLATED BY HOX

I WON'T RUN AWAY...!
生存
Life
Fukumoto Nobuyuki × Kawaguchi Kaiji
I HAVE NO CHOICE TO STRIKE BACK!!
THEN...
I WON'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE...!
I'LL CRUSH THIS FUCKING DETECTIVE...

MR. DETECTIVE...

I'M TELLING YOU, SAWAKO WASN'T KILLED ON THE 21ST.
WHAT IS IT?

OH, I CAN SAY THAT FOR SURE!
WELL, NOBODY CAN SAY THAT FOR SURE.

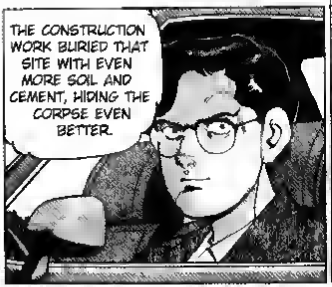
ABOUT THE PARKING LOT IN WHICH SHE WAS BURIED
YOU MUST KNOW
I'M NOT AN IDIOT...
I BURIED HER ON THE NIGHT OF THE 18TH BECAUSE THE DAY AFTER THAT, ON THE 19TH.
THAT PLACE WAS UNDER CONSTRUCTION BACK THEN.

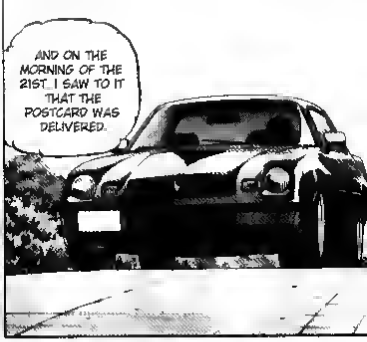
THE DAY AFTER THAT WAS WHEN THE CONSTRUCTION STARTED. I PURPOSELY CHOSE THAT PLACE KNOWING IT WOULD BE THE BEST PLACE TO HIDE THE CORPSE

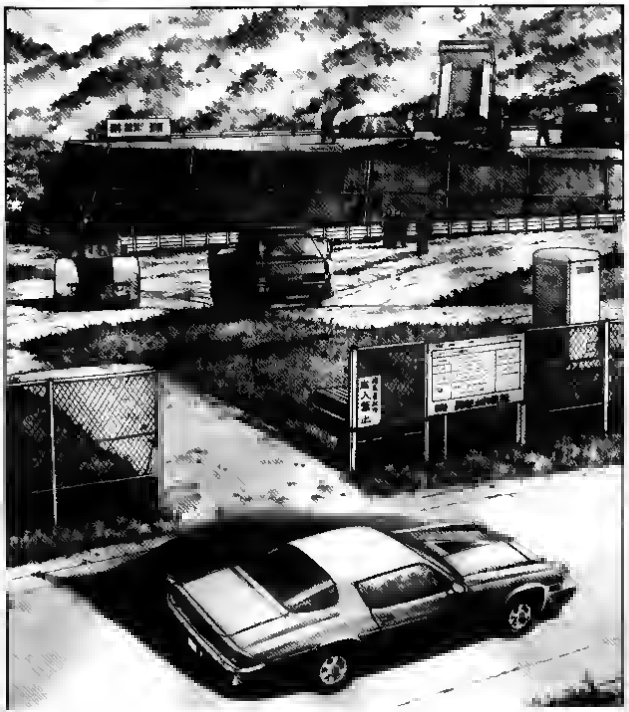
WHEN THE CONSTRUCTION WAS FINISHED?

DO YOU REALLY THINK...

THAT I COULD HAVE BURIED HER 3 DAYS LATER,


THE CONSTRUCTION WORK BURIED THAT SITE WITH EVEN MORE SOIL AND CEMENT, HIDING THE CORPSE EVEN BETTER.

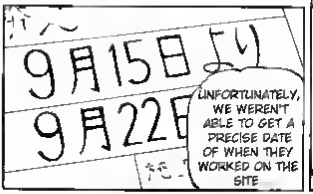

AND ON THE MORNING OF THE 21ST, I SAW TO IT THAT THE POSTCARD WAS DELIVERED.

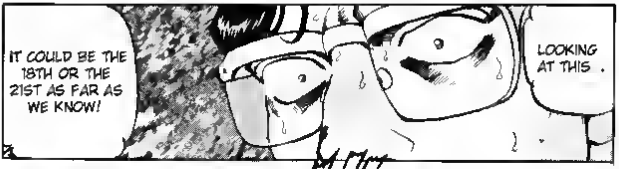


...
HAVE YOU SEEN THE SCHEDULE OF THAT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY?
ABOUT THAT SCHEDULE...
YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND IF YOU SAW IT. YOU WOULD SEE WHEN THAT CONSTRUCTION-
THIS IS IT.
WE WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN SOME DATA ABOUT THAT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY...

IT SHOWS THE DATES OF WHEN THEY WORKED ON CERTAIN PROJECTS SUCH AS BUILDINGS AND BRIDGES

第三駐車場基礎工事
行程日程
着工日 昭和○○年 9月15日(火)
完成予定日 昭和○○年 9月22日(火)
IT TURNED OUT TO BE ANOTHER PIECE OF EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS OUR EARLIER REASONING THAT SAWAKO COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED ON THE 21ST


9月15日(火)
9月22日
UNFORTUNATELY, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO GET A PRECISE DATE OF WHEN THEY WORKED ON THE SITE

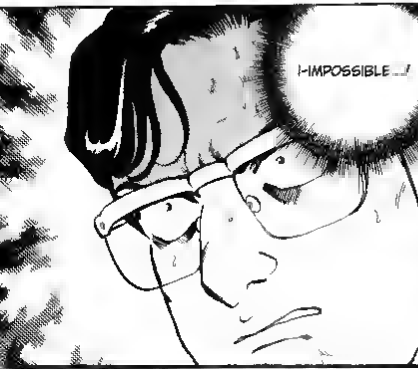

IT COULD BE THE 18TH OR THE 21ST AS FAR AS WE KNOW!
LOOKING AT THIS .

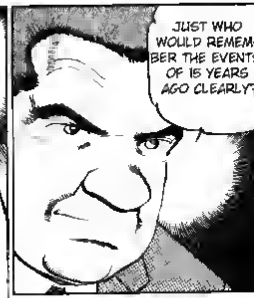
YOU CANNOT PROVE THAT SHE WAS BURIED ON THE 18TH WITH THIS!
H-HOW COULD THIS....

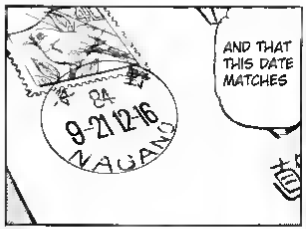
STOP THAT FOOLISHNESS THE COMPANY WENT OUT OF BUSINESS YEARS AGO...
JUST ASK THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED AT THE TIME!!

EVEN IF WE WERE TO FIND FORMER EMPLOYEES..

IT'S BEEN 5 YEARS SINCE THEY WENT BANKRUPT...
IT'S UNFORTUNATE BUT WE CAN'T CONTACT THEM ANYMORE


I-IMPOSSIBLE...!


JUST WHO WOULD REMEMBER THE EVENTS OF 15 YEARS AGO CLEARLY?


AND THAT THIS DATE MATCHES
9-21-16
NAGANO

COMPARED TO SOMETHING AS UNRELIABLE AS THAT, THE FACT THAT WE HAVE A POSTCARD MAILED ON THE 21ST..

THE TIME FRAME GIVEN BY THIS RECORD,
9月15日
9月22

WHAT A RIDICULOUS LIE..!

IS A MUCH MORE RELIABLE PIECE OF EVIDENCE!
THIS IS THE PROOF THAT SHOWS THAT SAWAKO WAS NOT DEAD ON THE 16TH!

THIS WILL PROVE OUR VICTORY!
YOU BASTARD, MAKING SHIT UP AS YOU PLEASE!!
MR. TAKEDA, THIS IS OUR VICTORY!

WITH THIS...
HE'S ALREADY SAID MANY THINGS THAT ONLY THE CRIMINAL WOULD KNOW...
BUT HE ALSO HAS NO REAL EVIDENCE TO OVERTURN OUR CLAIM THAT THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED ON THE 21ST
EVEN THAT STRICT PROSECUTOR,
WILL BE ABLE TO ACCEPT OUR CASE NOW!
WE WON.
WE WON, SAWAKO!

!?
AH...
WAIT!!

I HAVE PROOF THAT I WASN'T THERE!
WHICH MEANS THAT I WOULD HAVE HAD TO BURY HER ON THE NIGHT OF THE 21ST SINCE THE CONSTRUCTION COULD HAVE ONLY LASTED UNTIL THE 22ND. BUT THE THING IS, I WASN'T IN NAGOYA AT THAT TIME...

IF SAWAKO SENT THIS LETTER ON THE 21ST, THEN THAT MEANS I KILLED HER AFTER THAT...

SO JUST WAIT HERE!
AS LONG AS I SHOW YOU THAT PROOF, IT'S OKAY RIGHT?

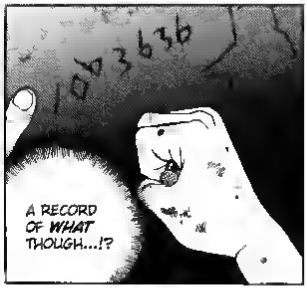
HAH, HAH
RECORD OF SOME SORT?
DOES HE HAVE SOME SORT OF RECORD...?
PROOF?

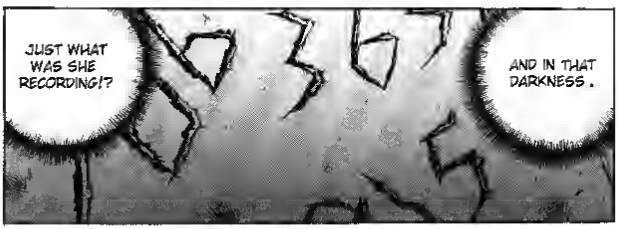
IN OTHER WORDS, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOME RECORD THAT PROVES HE WAS ELSEWHERE...
SOMETHING THAT PROVES THAT HE DEFINITELY WASN'T THERE...?
1063636
1055915
...!!
WHAT DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH NAKAMURA?
THOSE TWO 7-DIGIT NUMBERS... WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE CRIMINAL...?
1063636
1055915
たすけて
父さん
佐和子

COULD IT BE...!
EVEN NOW, I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN...
NO, I DON'T THINK IT'S AN ADDRESS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT...
COULD IT BE A RECORD?
IT HAS TO HAVE SOME OTHER MEANING...

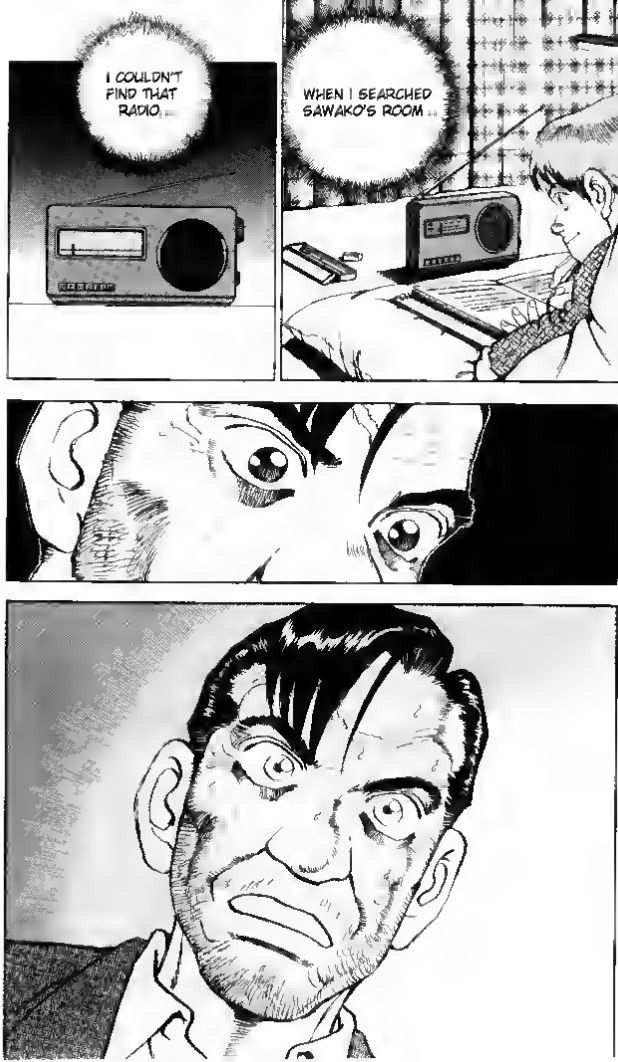
A RECORD...?
IT MUST BE SOME SORT OF RECORD THAT SAWAKO WROTE.

INSIDE THAT TRUNK,


10b3636
A RECORD OF WHAT THOUGH...!?


JUST WHAT WAS SHE RECORDING!?
AND IN THAT DARKNESS .

JUST WHAT DID IT MEAN...!?
IF IT DOESN'T HAVE TO DO WITH WHERE THE CRIMINAL WAS OR WAS HEADING TOWARDS...
!!
THAT RADIO...
DONUT


I COULDN'T FIND THAT RADIO...
WHEN I SEARCHED SAWAKO'S ROOM...

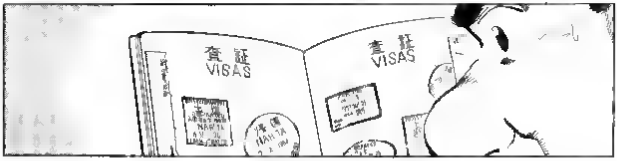
EXCUSE ME FOR A MINUTE
HMM!?
...?
IT'S ME..
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO CHECK FOR ME.
YES...THE NUMBER WAS...

IF IT'S SOME TICKET FOR A MOVIE OR A PLAY, THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE A RELIABLE PIECE OF EVIDENCE TO SAVE YOU
LET ME SAY THIS NOW...

HAHAHA
AFTER ALL THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY PROVE THAT YOU WEREN'T THERE...
YOU UNDER-STAND, RIGHT?
THERE'S NOTHING MORE CERTAIN THAN THIS...!!
IT'S NOTHING AS VAGUE AS THAT...
IT'S MY PASSPORT.
JAPAN
PASSPORT
!?

WHAT?

LOOK!


査証
VISAS
査証
VISAS

帰国
NARITA
24.9.1984
国審査官・日本国

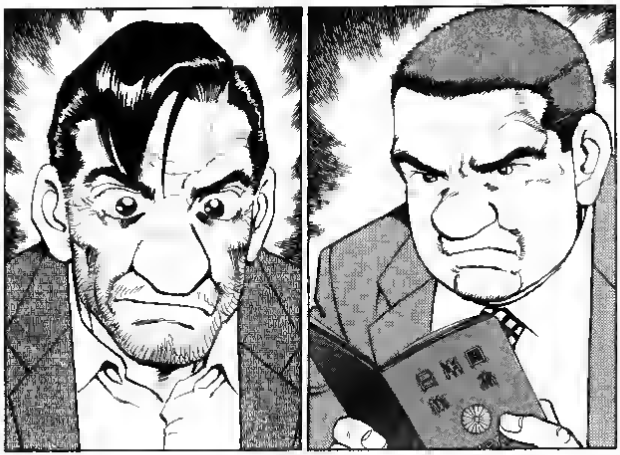
出国
DEPARTED
入国審査官-日本国
NARITA
21.9.1984

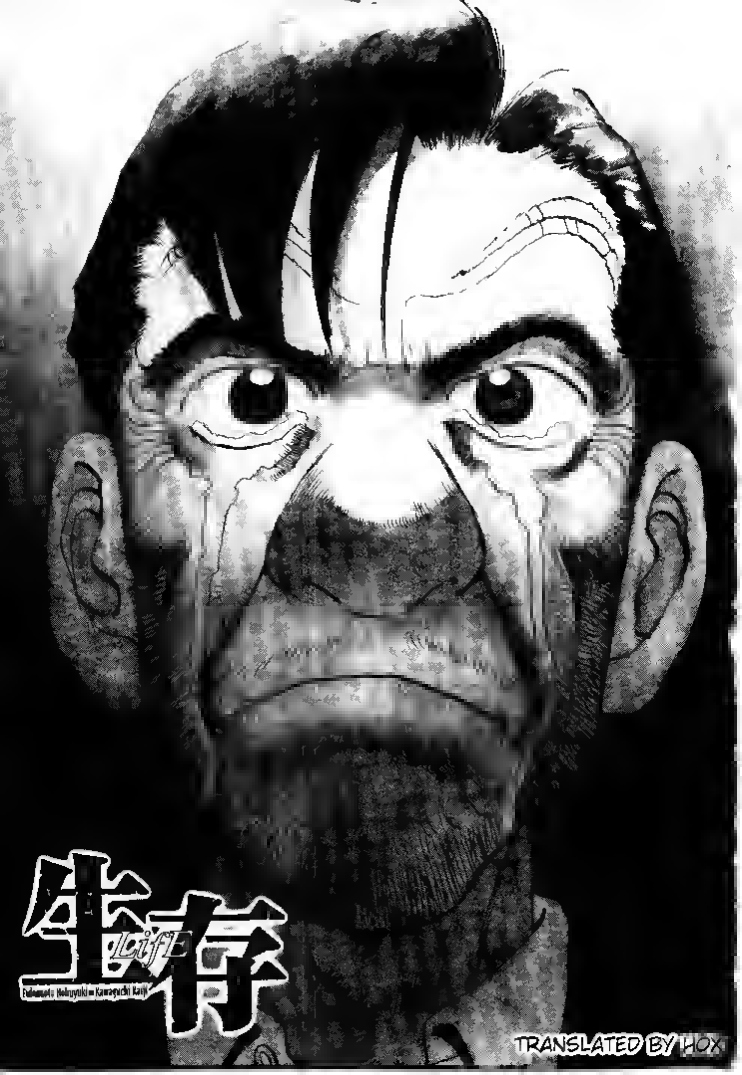
HE FLEW AWAY ON THE 21ST AND RETURNED ON THE 24TH!

I ONLY ASKED WHEN THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS WOULD EXPIRE WHEN TAKING HIS OVERSEAS FLIGHT INTO ACCOUNT!
I NEVER CHECKED FOR MYSELF NAKAMURA'S FLIGHT RECORDS

WITH THIS DATE OF RECORD..!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO NOW...!

HAHAHAHA-
HAHAHAHA!
IT'S MY
VICTORY!
EVEN IF SHE
WAS KILLED
AND BURIED ON
THE 21ST, I
WASN'T EVEN
IN JAPAN ON
THAT DAY!!




生存
Taiheiyouteki Heiwayoukyuu no Kanaepyoshi Kenji
TRANSLATED BY HOX

生存

LifE

Fukumoto Nobuyuki ✱ Kawaguchi Kaiji

ON THE NIGHT OF THE 21ST, I WAS ALREADY HEADING TOWARDS GUAM
OR ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME EVEN THAT PASSPORT IS A FORGERY?
WITH THIS, YOUR RIDICULOUS THEORY IS DESTROYED!
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU IDIOTS TALK YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS ONE!
YOU FAILED! IT'S ALL OVER!!

HAHAHAHA!!
IT'S ALL OVER!!!

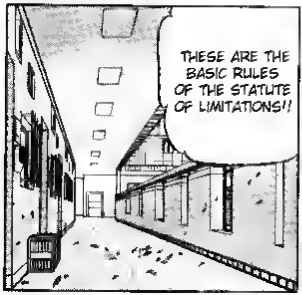
EVEN IF YOU BURIED HER ON THE 18TH...
?
HEH HEH... WHO KNOWS?
THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT SHE WAS ALREADY DEAD BY THE 18TH

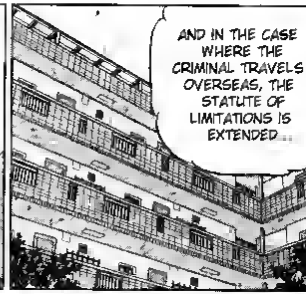
IN OTHER WORDS, FROM THE 16TH!
IN THAT CASE, THE TIME LIMIT COUNTS DOWN FROM THE LAST TIME YOU HEARD FROM YOUR DAUGHTER...

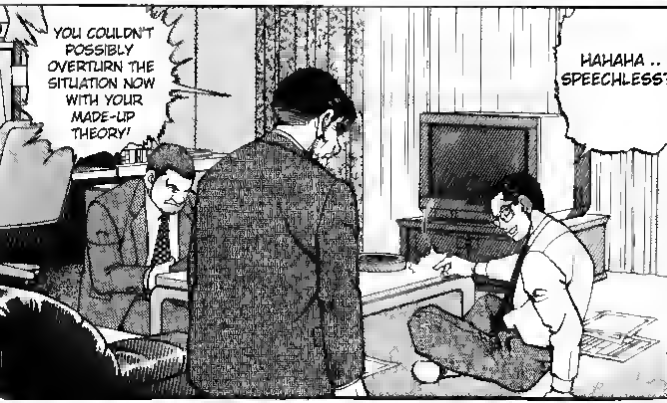
MR. DETECTIVE?
RIGHT?

LISTEN WELL, MR.TAKEDA
DOWN TO THE EVERY LAST DETAIL!
HAHAHA. I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS!

BUT IN THE CASE WHERE THE EXACT DATE OF DEATH ISN'T KNOWN THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS COUNTS DOWN FROM THE TIME YOU LAST HEARD FROM YOUR DAUGHTER WHICH IS THE 16TH!
I ADMIT THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHEN SHE EXACTLY DIED. IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE 16TH, 17TH, OR MAYBE EVEN THE 18TH.


THESE ARE THE BASIC RULES OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS!!


AND IN THE CASE WHERE THE CRIMINAL TRAVELS OVERSEAS, THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IS EXTENDED...


YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY OVERTURN THE SITUATION NOW WITH YOUR MADE-UP THEORY!
HAHAHA.. SPEECHLESS?

BUT LET ME TELL YOU ONE MORE THING...
I DEFINITELY KILLED HER ON THE 16TH.
THAT GIRL ONCE I HAD MY WAY WITH HER,
I DECIDED TO KILL HER SHORTLY AFTER THAT..

DO YOU REALIZE IT NOW...?
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO..
IT WON'T MATTER BECAUSE THIS CASE IS ALL OVER!
HAHAHA!

WHAT?

NAKA-
MURA...
IT'S A FAX
FROM
SAWAKO...

?

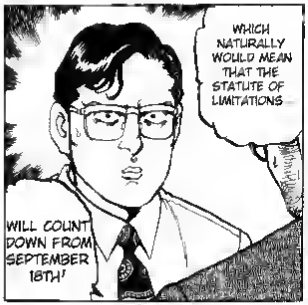
受信中

WHAT'S HE DOING NOW....?
A FAX FROM SAWAKO? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN....?

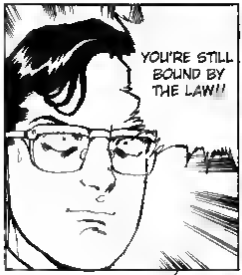
NAKAMURA...
IT'S SAWAKO'S...
VICTORY!

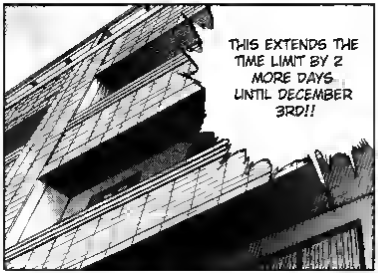
WHAT IS THAT?
HUH?
SAWAKO WAS ALIVE.
SAWAKO...
BLESS HER SOUL... SHE HUNG ON TO THE VERY END AND USED HER LAST REMAINING STRENGTH TO CATCH THE CRIMINAL.
WHAT!?

HUH?
SHE WAS ALIVE
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU...
SAWAKO DIDN'T DIE ON THE 16TH!!
EVEN AFTER I LOST CONTACT WITH HER..
EVEN AFTER YOU LAYED YOUR HANDS ON HER...
SAWAKO WAS ALIVE!!
WITHOUT ANY FOOD OR WATER...
EVEN INSIDE THAT CRAMPED, PITCH BLACK TRUNK...


WHICH NATURALLY WOULD MEAN THAT THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS
WILL COUNT DOWN FROM SEPTEMBER 18TH!

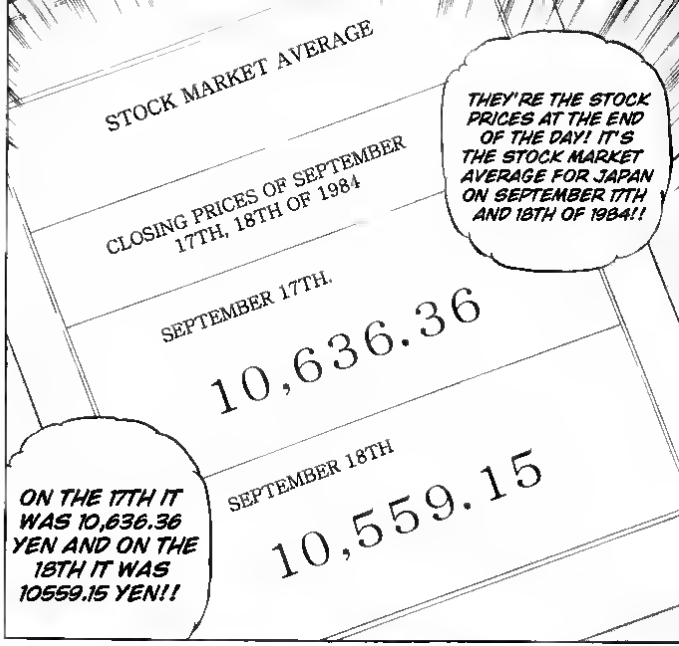
WITH JUST A RADIO . SHE MANAGED TO STAY CONNECTED WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD UNTIL THE 18TH. !!

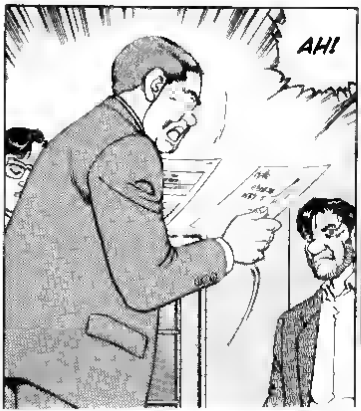

YOU'RE STILL BOUND BY THE LAW!!


THIS EXTENDS THE TIME LIMIT BY 2 MORE DAYS UNTIL DECEMBER 3RD!!

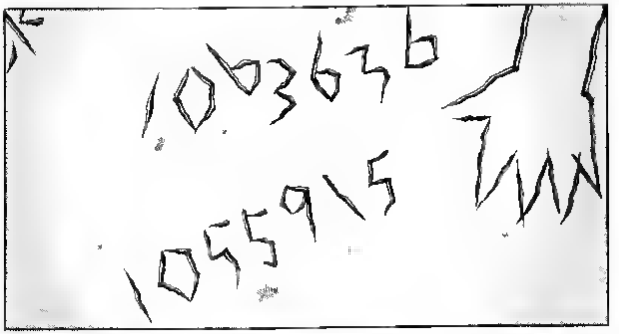
GUILTY!!
YOU WILL STILL BE FOUND...

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT SHE WAS STILL ALIVE INSIDE THAT TRUNK?!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
LOOK!
AND A RADIO?
WHAT KIND OF NON-SENSE IS THIS?


STOCK MARKET AVERAGE
CLOSING PRICES OF SEPTEMBER 17TH, 18TH OF 1984
SEPTEMBER 17TH.
10,636.36
SEPTEMBER 18TH
10,559.15
THEY'RE THE STOCK PRICES AT THE END OF THE DAY! IT'S THE STOCK MARKET AVERAGE FOR JAPAN ON SEPTEMBER 17TH AND 18TH OF 1984!!
ON THE 17TH IT WAS 10,636.36 YEN AND ON THE 18TH IT WAS 10559.15 YEN!!


AH!

!



SEPTEMBER 17TH

10,636.36

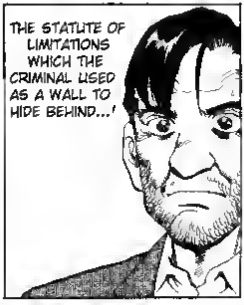
SEPTEMBER 18TH

10,559.15

AH...
THAT... CAN'T... BE...

SAWAKO NEVER GAVE UP
WE DID IT!!
SHE BELIEVED...!!
SHE USED UP HER VERY LAST REMAINING STRENGTH TO CARVE THIS!!
THIS IS THE PROOF OF THAT...
10636
10559

THE TENACITY OF TAKEDA, MURAI...


THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS WHICH THE CRIMINAL USED AS A WALL TO HIDE BEHIND...!

AND SAWAKO FINALLY BROKE THROUGH THAT WALL!!

1 MONTH AFTER

TAKE CARE.
TAKE GOOD CARE,
OF THE RING
IT'S VERY STRANGE
YOUR TUMOR HASN'T GROWN AT ALL...

I NEED TO LIVE MY REMAINING LIFE TO THE FULLEST!
I'LL SUCCEED SAWAKO'S WILL!!
JAL

HE MUST BE LOOKING DOWN AT US...
RIGHT NOW...
WHAT?

I WILL LIVE ON

I WILL LIVE ON

I WILL LIVE ON...!

TRANSLATED BY HOX